

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
EB-08 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HA-05 IO-13 /096 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:DVKILLION:JZ  
APPROVED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH  
-----051726 180203Z /73  
P 172357Z APR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 098064

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PINT, UV

SUBJECT: UPPER VOLTAN AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON AF/W

REFS: (A) STATE 44068, (B) 77 OUAGADOUGOU 4756, (C) 77 USUN  
4998

1. UPPER VOLTAN AMBASSADOR YAGUIBOU, ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSELOR NIKIEMA, CALLED ON AF/W DIRECTOR APRIL 13. ALTERNATE COUNTRY OFFICER (KILLION) ATTENDED MEETING.
2. YAGUIBOU SAID HE HAD NO SPECIAL PROBLEMS TO RAISE, BUT WANTED TO KEEP UP REGULAR CONSULTATIONS HE HAS WITH DEPARTMENT. WE GAVE BRIEF SUMMARY OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S AFRICAN TRIP.
3. YAGUIBOU REFERRED TO HIS FEBRUARY MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE (REF A) AND TO FOREIGN MINISTER KARGOUGOU'S DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR GRAHAM (REF B) REQUESTING U.S. "ENCOURAGEMENT" OF THE RETURN TO POLITICAL RULE IN UPPER  
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VOLTA. YAGUIBOU UNDERSTOOD THAT EARLIER REQUESTS FOR MATERIAL SUPPORT WERE "INAPPROPRIATELY PHRASED." HIS OWN MEETING WITH MOOSE MADE CLEAR THAT UPPER VOLTA SEEKS POLITICAL AND MORAL SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT LAMIZANA AS HE GUIDES POLITICAL PROCESS ON EVE OF LEGISLATIVE AND PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. YAGUIBOU SUGGESTED A U.S. MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR GRAHAM TO PRESIDENT LAMIZANA, OR PERHAPS

A MESSAGE TO YAGUIBOU IN WASHINGTON FOR DELIVERY TO THE PRESIDENT. PRESIDENT LAMIZANA'S PREOCCUPATION, YAGUIBOU ASSERTED, IS NOT WITH POWER FOR ITS OWN SAKE, BUT WITH NEED TO ASSURE THE CONTINUATION OF THE PROCESS OF DEMOCRATIZATION. YAGUIBOU SAID A RECENT VISITOR, DIRECTOR DAMIBA (UPPER VOLTA) OF THE WEST AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, HAD RELAYED TO HIM PRESIDENT LAMIZANA'S CONCERN THAT THE U.S. SEEMED TO HAVE "LITTLE INTEREST" IN UPPER VOLTA, AND LAMIZANA'S CONCERN THAT U.S. "NON-INTERFERENCE" WOULD OPEN WAY FOR OTHER POWERS WITHOUT SUCH COMPUNCTIONS. AN ETHIOPIA OR BENIN SITUATION COULD BE THE RESULT FOR UPPER VOLTA. YAGUIBOU APPRECIATED OUR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, AND LAUDED AID'S PROJECTS AND CAPABILITIES. POLITICS, HOWEVER, OVERRIDE ECONOMICS, AS WITNESSED BY SEVERAL POTENTIALLY RICH AFRICAN STATES WHICH WERE IN ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES ONLY BECAUSE OF INEPT POLITICAL LEADERSHIP.

4. YAGUIBOU URGED THE U.S. TO DO SOMETHING TO MARK ITS INTEREST IN UPPER VOLTA'S GOOD HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD AND ITS DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESS. IN ADDITION TO A MESSAGE, PERHAPS A SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL COULD VISIT UPPER VOLTA TO TELL PRESIDENT LAMIZANA PERSONALLY OF OUR SATISFACTION OVER UPPER VOLTA'S GOOD HUMAN RIGHTS PERFORMANCE.

5. WE POINTED OUT THAT OUR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE DEMONSTRATES EFFECTIVELY OUR STRONG INTEREST -- AND REAFFIRMED THAT WE  
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COULD NOT INTERVENE OR INTERFERE IN UPPER VOLTA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS BY APPEARING TO SUPPORT A POLITICAL PARTY OR CANDIDATE. YAGUIBOU HOPED THAT THE U.S. COULD, IN ANY EVENT, SEND AN "ENCOURAGING MESSAGE IF PRESIDENT LAMIZANA WINS" THE ELECTION IN MAY. WE SAID WE WOULD CONSIDER HIS SUGGESTION.

6. FYI: WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER APPROPRIATE MESSAGES TO PRESIDENT LAMIZANA FOLLOWING APRIL 30 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS AND MAY 14 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. END FYI. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMBASSADORS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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